The sentence and judgment of the Court in the within case is that the said James Harris be confined in the Penitentiary of this State for the period of six years and six months from this date.

November 7th 1863.

D. Weisel

25

The State of Maryland
vs
James Harris
Indictment
A True Bill
C. M. Thruston
Foreman

Filed Oct. 15/63

Witnesses
James W. Robinett
Chas. Wilson
~~[illegible]~~
Clerk of Indictment
Oct 14th 1863
Jas. W. Robinett

State of Maryland,

Allegany County, to wit:

The jurors of the State of Maryland, for the body of Allegany County, do on their oath present, that, James Harris, late of said Allegany County, free negro ~~colored man~~, on the tenth day of August in the year of our Lord One thousand eight Hundred and Sixty three, at Allegany County aforesaid, did then and there, unlawfully entice, persuade, and assist two negro women, Slaves, one named Fanny ——— and the other named Mary ~~Harris~~, the said negro Slaves, then and there being the lawful property of one Elias Wilson, ~~person~~, of Allegany County aforesaid, and the said Elias Wilson being then and there, the lawful owner, and possessor of the said negro women, Slaves, named, Fanny ——— and Mary ~~Harris~~, he, the said James Harris, then and there well knowing, the said Fanny, and Mary ~~Harris~~ to be the Slaves, and to be the property of the said Elias Wilson, and the said James Harris, then and there well ~~knowing the said~~ Elias Wilson to be, then and there, the lawful owner and possessor of the said Slaves, against the will and consent of the said Elias Wilson, to run away from him, the said Elias Wilson, the lawful owner and possessor, of the said Slaves, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly

in such case made and provided, and against the Peace, Government, and dignity of the State -

And the Jurors aforesaid, upon their oath aforesaid, do further present, that the said James Harris, ~~late of Allegany County aforesaid~~, afterwards, to wit - on the same day and year aforesaid, at the County aforesaid, did then and there, - maliciously entice, two other Negro women slaves, one named Fanny _____ and the other named Mary ~~Harris~~, the said last mentioned Negro women, slaves, then and there being, the property of the said Elias Wilson, and the said Elias Wilson, being then and there, the lawful owner and possessor, of the said last mentioned slaves, he, the said James Harris, then and there, well knowing, the said last mentioned slaves, to be slaves, and the lawful property of the said Elias Wilson, and he - the said James Harris, then and there, well knowing the said Elias Wilson, to be the lawful owner and possessor of the said last mentioned slaves, against the will and consent of the said Elias Wilson, to run away from him the said Elias Wilson, the lawful owner and possessor of the said last mentioned slaves, contrary to the form of the

Act of Assembly in such case made and provided, and against the peace, Government and dignity of the State — And the jurors aforesaid, on their oath aforesaid, do further present, that the said James Harris, ~~late of Allegany County aforesaid, free Colored Man~~ — afterwards to wit: on the same day and year aforesaid, at Allegany County aforesaid, did then and there unlawfully persuade two other negro Women, Slaves, one named Fanny ——— and the other named Mary ~~Harris~~, the said last mentioned negro Slaves, being then and there the lawful property of the said Elias Wilson, and he, the said Elias Wilson, being then and there, the lawful owner, and possessor of said last mentioned Slaves, he, the said James Harris, then and there well knowing, the said last mentioned Slaves, to be the Slaves, and to be the lawful property of the said Elias Wilson, and he the said James Harris, then and there well knowing the said Elias Wilson to be the lawful owner and possessor of the said last mentioned Slaves, against the will and consent of the said Elias Wilson, to move away from him the said Elias Wilson, the lawful owner and possessor of the said last mentioned Slaves, contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly

in such case made and provided, and against the Peace, Government and dignity of the State —

And the Jurors aforesaid, upon their oath aforesaid, do further presents that the said James Harris, ~~late of Allegany County, aforesaid, free colored man,~~ afterwards to wit:— On the same day and year aforesaid, at the County aforesaid, did unlawfully, then and there assist, two other Negro Women, Slaves, one named Fanny ~~———~~, and the other named, Mary ~~Harris~~, the said last mentioned Slaves, being then and there, the lawful property of the said Elias Wilson, of the County aforesaid, and the said Elias Wilson, being then and there, the lawful owner and possessor, of the said last mentioned Slaves, he, the said James Harris, then and there well knowing, the said last mentioned Slaves, to be ~~the~~ Slaves, and to be the lawful property of the said Elias Wilson, and he, the said James Harris, then and there well knowing the said Elias Wilson, to be the lawful owner and possessor, of the said last mentioned slaves, against the will and consent of the said Elias Wilson, to run away from him the said Elias Wilson the lawful owner and possessor, of the said last mentioned slaves, contrary to the form of the act of Assembly, in such case made and provided, and against the peace, government and dignity of the State.

C. B. Thruston
The State's Attorney
for Allegany County

25

Filed Oct 14/63

In the Circuit Court for Allegany County,

October TERM, 1863.

The Grand Inquest of the State of Maryland, for the body of Allegany County, on their oaths do present James Harris for enticing & aiding Six Slaves (the property of Elias Wilson) to abscond about the 13 day of August last - Said Harris knowing them to be slaves contrary to Article 30 of the Code Section 176

Witness
James W. Robinett

C. M. Thruston
Foreman.

25 lc. apps

State of Maryland

vs

Capias

James Harris

Presented for Entering
away slaves &c

Capias in Jail
J. G. McCullough
Sheff

Allegany County, to wit:

The State of Maryland to the Sheriff of Allegany County, Greeting:

We command you that you take James Harris

if he shall be found in your Bailiwick, and him safely keep, so that you have his body before the Circuit Court for Allegany County, ~~to be~~ now held at the Court House, in the City of Cumberland, ~~on the~~ ---------- *~~Monday of~~* ---------- *~~next~~, to answer unto the State of Maryland of and concerning a certain trespass, contempt and misdemeanor by him committed, as it is presented and so forth, and have you then and there this writ.*

Witness *the Honorable* **Daniel Weisel**, *Judge of the said Court, the* 12th *day of* October, 1863. *Issued the* 14th *day of* October, 1863.

S. T. Mosley, **Clerk.**

25 b apps
O b 1863

Filed Dec. 26/61

State of Maryland

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Annapolis Dec. 20th 1864

I, William P. Hill Secretary of State, of the State of Maryland, do hereby certify that the Governor this day granted a Pardon to James Harris (negro) convicted in the Circuit Court for Allegany County at October Term, 1863, of enticing Slaves to run away and sentenced to be confined in the Penitentiary for 6 years & 6 months

Given under my Hand and the seal of my Office, this 20th day of December in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four.

W P Hill

To his Excellency the Hon. A. W. Bradford
Governor of Maryland

The undersigned citizens of Allegany county would respectfully represent to your Excellency, that, there is now lying in the jail of this county a free-colored man by the name of James Harris, under conviction for the offence of aiding some persons of like color with himself, but subject to bondage under the laws of this state, to escape from the state, for which offence the law consigns him to the penitentiary for not less than six years, unless the clemency of your excellency interposes in his behalf.

The case, according to the statement of one of the jurors, seems to be this:— This man Harris was seen to leave Cumberland in company with these parties, (who came from a district some ten miles east of Cumberland) and at a point about five miles from town hailed the stage, and by the permission of the driver got aboard with these parties, whose fare he paid.— Upon arriving at the next station, they left the stage for want of room and this man, Harris was heard to advise them to remain until next evening, when he would pay their passage to Uniontown Pa.—

However, this man Harris is the father & Grand-father of some of these parties, and was doubtless influenced in his conduct by these relations, as well as, by the revolutionary character of the times.— The Jury who convicted, are strong in their sympathy for this victim of paternity & revolution, for as your Honor will perceive, the act was of recent occurrence, no longer than August last; and they will constitute the first on the list of your respectful petitioners.— One of the jurors remarked in the presence of the writer of this petition, that

though he believed the man Harris was guilty of the charge, yet he for one did not feel like punishing him for what every body else seemed now to be doing. —

Further, this Harris is personally known to the public as a very worthy man, being sober, honest & I believe industrious — We therefore, earnestly but respectfully present his case to your Honor as one of great hardship, and hope, that, your Excellency, will find, upon a consideration of his case, it, to comport with your views of duty to this commonwealth, to extend a full pardon to this unfortunate man of a most unfortunate race; and your petitioners will ever wish prosperity & long life to your Excellency. —

John L. Hook Jurors
Levi Shaw "
N. J. Conner "
Lewis Swaly "
Jacob Mosier "
Lewis Pritchard "
Jonathan Friend "
Jess Kerns "
Joshua J. Hartley "
William Ashby "
Henry Dicken "
J. B. H. Campbell "

This is the Jury which tried the Case

Jno A. Young
" "
R. H. McCune
A. B. Poose
Jas. W. Souders
" "
C. M. Kizer
Stephens Beall
Jno Ekind
Geo. A. Hoffman
A. M. L. Bush

Members of the ~~last~~ Legislature
Hopewell Hebb — Senator
J. C. Greene — Delegate
" "
Henry Brown — " "
" "
Wm Shaw — " "
Geo C. Perry

State of Maryland

-v-

James Harris
negro.

Copy of Docket Entries.

In the Circuit Court for Allegany County
October Term 1863.

State of Maryland
vs.
James Harris
Negro.

No. 25 Criminal Apps.

Presented for enticing away Slaves &c.
Prest. Indict. Capi. In fail.
Oct 24th Plea not Guilty.
Jury Sworn, Trial, Verdict Guilty.

1863 Nov. 7th. Sentenced to the Penitentiary for 6 years and 6 months from this date.

State of Maryland,
Allegany County, to wit:

I, Horace Resley, clerk of the Circuit Court for Allegany County, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of original Docket entries in above case, taken from the Docket of October Term 1863, of the Circuit Court for Allegany County, Maryland.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my name and affix the seal of said Circuit Court at Cumberland, this 30th day of May 1864.

Horace Resley clerk.

Cumberland Sept. 4 – 04

Gov. Bradford

Dear Sir

There is now confined in the State Penitentiary a negro named James Harris who was sent there for aiding and abetting slaves in running away from their masters. The last one he attempted to assist was his own daughter which I think should in some measure extenuate his fault. He was a faithful slave until he obtained his freedom, which was after the death of my mother, and was hired out 20 years from the death of my father, and he even worked a year after he should have been free to pay one of the heirs who thought he was not able to give him the time. Paid for his freedom papers also. I am induced to ask this favor of

you in consideration that his services whilst a slave went to the support of my Mother and her children, And as both Law and Justice have been satisfied I trust you will think favorably of his case, that he may have the pleasure of being with his wife and children. When a slave he was the property of Joseph Perry Hilleary, and heirs, a name well known in this county.

Hoping in your known liberality and mercifulness I leave him to you.

Yours respectfully

Mrs. M. E. White

Cumberland

Md.

222

James Harris

for Pardon

Day of hearing

Dec. 20. 1864

Cumberland, Maryland
November 15. 1864

To His Excellency
Governor A. W. Bradford

The undersigned, citizens of Allegany County, Maryland, respectfully ask your Excellency to pardon immediately James Harris, a colored man sent to the penitentiary about a year since, convicted of aiding his children to escape from servitude — We can assure your Excellency, from long personal knowledge of James Harris, to the very period of his conviction, of his quiet, respectful and excellent behavior, without exception during his lifelong abode in this County and City, with this single exception, if he be really guilty of the offence for which he was convicted — Some of us can further say, that the prosecution of Harris at the time when it was commenced, and under the state of feeling then existing in Maryland on the slavery question, was stimulated more by party feeling, than a desire to see the laws faithfully executed, though in this expression, we do not intend to ascribe a consciousness of such motives to anyone instrumental in urging the prosecution; nor do we intend any reflection on those whose duty it was to execute the laws in his particular case — We therefore pray your Excellency to pardon said James Harris as soon as the laws will admit, if in your wise

discretion, you deem it proper to do so.

Respectfully Submitted

Thomas Jones
Mark Powell
Robert Reed
J. C. Green
Hopewell Webb
Geo. A. Hoffman
C. L. McCleary
Jno. H. Sloan
Jno. N. Young
J. Wickard
Wm R Boell
W. R. McCullen
C. A. Ohr
S. M. Adams
Jacob I Craigen
James Smith
Wm Hottibzell

Wm. A. Thruston
State's Attorney
C. M. Thruston
Robert Shriver
E. Shriver
Rezin Beall
John Hays
Geo. F. Gephart
J. C. Johnson
Wellington Clem
Geo. W. Sowers
G. M. Rizer
M. L. Rizer

Cumberland Md Nov 17-1864

I take pleasure in expressing an earnest belief that the Governor of Maryland may grant the pardon, above asked for, by highly respectable and influential citizens of Allegany

Respectfully

Francis Lowndes

I know James Harris personally, and believe him to be an honest man. and know that he sustains a good character among his neighbors. and I cheerfully join the the foregoing petition.

James Smith

Judge of the Circuit Court

for Allegany County

State of Maryland

vs

John J. Gill.
J. Davis
W. H. Brawner

In Circuit Court for Charles County.
Sheriff Term 1883.
Recog? Securities in the sum of $75.00 each, for the personal appearance of principal to this Court to answer, Debt Called & forfeited Nisi, Ordered by the Court to be respited to next Court. & affidavit &c.

True Copy Test. J. H. Craven
Clk

51274-86-3-S

220

William Brawner
Peregrine Davis
for
remission of forfeited
recognizances

State of Maryland } In the Circuit Court
vs
John Bells } for Charles County.

To His Excellency
A. W. Bradford
Governor of Md.

The petition of William Brawner & Peregrine Davis humbly represent, that some time prior to December Term Eighteen hundred and Sixty two, a certain John Bells upon Charge of Larceny had been recognized to appear at Court & your petitioners became his Sureties: & your petitioners further represent, that said Bells, volunteered & became a Soldier in the Service of the Federal Government before said Term, & at said Term of Court, the Grand Inquest of the County found no presentment against said Bells. The said Bells did not appear and his recognizance was forfeited & your petitioners amerced in the Sum of One hundred dollars; from the payment of which, under all the circumstances, surrounding the case, your petitioners pray Your Excellency to be released, as your petitioners now powerless to compel his appearance at Court
and as in duty bound
your petitioners will

Over May &c.

Grandjurors

Joseph Stuart
J. W. Burch
Benj. W. Gardiner
Thos. R. Jones
Jas. Dyer
M. L. Penney

Noel P. Hannon
T. J. Riley
A. Smoot
F. H. Shelp
Henry S. Dent
Benton Barnes
John L. Shackelford

R. W. Bryan
W. P. Posey
John Wall
J. H. Morgan
Thos. L. Speak
Saml. D. Davis
G. W. Berry
Lee Herbert
Saml. T. Berry
M. L. McPherson
B. H. Harris

Frederick L. Dent
Thos. F. Darnall
Thos. P. Gray
Geo. W. Carpenter
Peter Wheeler
Samuel Hanson
G. W. Hungerford
J. D. Carpenter
Robt. Biggs Sr.
H. E. Willett
W. Mansfield
Barnes Compton

Under the circumstances above set forth I recommend the release of the forfeiture alluded to in said petition

Jany 20th 1864

Geo Brent Judge of Circuit Court for Chas. County

221

George W. Coulson

for Pardon

Day of hearing Feby 23rd

To His Excellency
Augustus W. Bradford
Governor of Maryland.

We the undersigned Citizens of Baltimore and its vicinity respectfully but earnestly solicit of your excellency your interposition in behalf of George W. Carlson who is now in the Maryland Penitentiary.

He was convicted upwards of four years ago, with an "Assault with Intent to Kill" and was sentenced to eight years imprisonment, more than half of which has now elapsed, if your Excellency will acquaint yourself with the extenuating circumstances of his case, and in view of his decided amendment which will be testified to by the officers of the Institution in which he is confined we do think the demands of justice have been satisfied, and we hope your excellency will exercise the attribute of mercy and make glad the heart of his aged parents and restore to society one whom we have no doubt in the future will be a useful respectable and good citizen to this end we earnestly entreat your Excellency for the interposition of Executive clemency in his case, and as in duty bound we will ever pray. &c

Respectfully Yr. Obt. Servts

John T. Pepper
John Phipps
Daniel S. Armstrong
Joseph Walker Eshman
Samuel Robinson
Robert Graham
Robert W. Irwin
Chas. Le Fevre
Chas. M. Fisher
Lewis G. Patterson
Aquila Arnold
Richard Fielding
Joseph Byrnham
James Patton
John R. Wisner
Andrew J. Ensor
Gideon H.
William S. Keech
Joseph Allison
Saml. M. Cameron
H. Edmund Hook
Christian Gore
Edwd. L. Larsha
Geo. Edwd. Kempler
Jas. B. Ensor

Caleb Hoshall
Lysander McCullough
Rufus King
William Galloway
Edwd. Stewart
Chas. F. Watkins
[illegible]
Robt. L. Lowe
Lewis H. Wheeler
H. H. Kane

Believing that the ends of justice have been subserved by the punishment already endured by George M. Carlon, we recommend him to Executive Clemency —

7 Jan. 1864

John H. Price
R. J. Gitting
Richd. Grason

Maryland Penitentiary

Baltimore Jany 26th 1864

This will certify that Prisoner George Coulsin, has since his commitment to this Institution, conducted himself in an examplary manner, but seldom reported for violations of the Discipline has been obedient to the Rules, and is considered a good Prisoner

M W C Thompson Warden

Copy Record

State
vs
George Coulson

Convicted Baltimore County March 1860 for an Assault with intent to Kill, and Sentenced to Eight Years and One Month Confinement in the Maryland Penitentiary

Recd in the Maryland Penitentiary Mar 20/1860
Time expires Apl 20/1868.

Test

Jno. J. C. Dougherty Clk of the
Maryland Penitentiary
Balto. January 26/1864

Towsontown Jany 7th 1863

His Excellency
Gov. Bradford

Dear Sir

Some four or five years ago, a man named Carlson was tried and convicted in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County for an assault with intent to murder and sentenced to the penitentiary for eight years. The shooting took place in the City of Baltimore from which place the cause was removed to this Court. The proof was that young Carlson, who was on a policy in posing a house in Baltimore City fired a pistol ball through the window in such manner as to render it almost impossible that any one in the room could have been injured and no one was injured. I was then and am still satisfied that he had no intention of injuring any one, but he was nevertheless convicted. I was then and am still of opinion that he fired the pistol out of mere mischief for the purpose of frightening any one who might be in the room. I recollect the facts well because I defended Carlson upon his trial. He deserved some punishment for his recklessness, but I think the punishment he has suffered is already greater than

he deserved and that his is a case that deserves the interposition of Executive clemency.

I am very respectfully
Your Obt Servant
Richd H. Gason

219

Wm G. Middleton
for
remission of
Forfeited Recognizance

To his Excellency A. W. Shad.
Gov. Governor of Maryland.

The petition of William
F. Middleton of Charles County
Maryland, respectfully states
to your Excellency, that a
negro slave belonging to him
called Menelius was recog-
nized for his appearance
at the December term of the
circuit court for Charles County,
to keep the peace, towards
William F. Heinburne of said
county, and that your peti-
tioner desiring the services
of said negro, as well as wish-
ing to relieve him from a
long confinement in the
county jail became the se-
curity for the appearance
of said negro at the said
December term of court.
Your petitioner further
states, that said negro
remained quietly with him
until a short time since,
when he ran off, not with a
a view, in your petitioners be-
ing to avoid his appearance
at court, but as many other
negroes in the same county
have done, influenced by the
by the state of affairs now sur-
rounding them and by their
knowledge of the difficulties

of their apprehension. Your petitioner has good reasons for believing that said negro went off to the Rendezvous at Benedict, in said County, for the enlistment of negro troops. In view of the impossibility of getting him in clay from Benedict, should he be there as believed, or the great difficulty and expense in bringing him elsewhere should he be out of the county, as he certainly is if not at Benedict, or in the United States service elsewhere, your petitioner respectfully solicits your Excellency to remit the forfeiture of one hundred dollars claimed by him by reason of the non-appearance of said negro as aforesaid. Your petitioner would add that his circumstances have been very much impaired by the depreciation of property caused by the war, and the forfeiture of this money would be a serious inconvenience and difficulty for him. And your petitioner will ever pray &c

Wm G. Middleton

Under the circumstances stated in the above petition I recommend that the forfeiture of the recognizance of the petitioner be remitted by his Excellency the Governor — Geo. I. Grant Judge of Circuit Court for Chas. County

Jany 9th 1864

The undersigned citizens of Charles County Maryland concur in the prayer of the foregoing petition, and respectfully ask his Excellency the Governor to remit the fine in question.

G. W. Crain Ch. of the C. C. for Charles County
~~Wm G. Middleton~~
Virgil Brent
J. Stone
Jno W. Whitehead
T. W. Hawkins
J. F. Matthews
R. J. A. Alden States Atty.
H. C. Burgess

Members of the Bar

Geo. A. Blunt Shff

State of Maryland

vs

"Negro Marcellus."
& William G. Middleton

In Circuit Court for Charles County, December Term 1873.

Recog.ce the security in the sum of $100.00 for the personal appearance of principal to the Court & to keep the peace against Wm. G. Spalding

Forfeited Nisi

True Copy Test,

J. W. Crain Clk